

two hundred thousand dollars was pledged by the State, for the construction of a canal to connect the Pocomoke and Annemessex rivers, whenever the legislature should be convinced of its practicability, and that the best interests of the State required it:—Therefore,

Sec. 15. And be it enacted, That George W. Purnell, John C. Dirickson, Zadock P. Henry, Peter Whaley, James M. Fooks, Charles Parker, Jesse Jones, Levi Cathell, Littleton Bourn, David K. Hopkins, John U. Dennis, Henry Long, William U. Purnell, William Showell, and John Mitchell, shall be and they are hereby appointed commissioners, and they, or a majority of them, are hereby authorised and empowered to cause an accurate examination to be made, and to decide and determine upon a place for the construction of a canal from the Pocomoke river to the Annemessex, and for the improvement of the natural navigation of the Pocomoke river above the town of Snow Hill, so far as the same may be practicable, and such other works of internal improvement within the limits of Worcester county, as will promote the interests of the people of the State; and that the same plan and estimates, with suitable explanations, shall be returned by the commissioners to the Governor and Council, to be by them considered, approved or rejected; and the said commissioners, or a majority of them, are hereby further authorised, if in their opinion necessary, to call in the aid of the State's Engineer for the purposes abovementioned.

And be it enacted, That if the Governor and Council shall approve the plan so returned, and shall certify such approval to said commissioners and to the Treasurer of the Western Shore, the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall thereupon be authorised and empowered to cause the aforesaid canal and improvement to be forthwith commenced, and shall have power to make all necessary contracts and agreements to accomplish the same; provided, that the whole costs of said canal and improvements shall not exceed the sum of two hundred thousand dollars; and provided also, that the said works shall be and remain the property of the State, and subject in all respects to be regulated and controuled and directed by the Legislature, as the public good may require.

And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the Western Shore, from time to time, to pay upon the requisition of the said commissioners, or a majority of them, such sum or sums of money, not exceeding in all